

Testimony of Mary Consoli, RN, BSN
Voter Service Coordinator LWV Northern Fairfield County
42 Tamanny Trail Danbury, CT 06811
February 20, 2023

S.J. No. 29 - RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE
CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING.
H.J. No. 1 - RESOLUTION APPROVING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO
ALLOW NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING;
Raised H.B. No. 6693 - AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING

Dear Senator Mae Flexer (Co-Chair), Representative Matt Blumenthal (Co-Chair), Ranking members Senator Rob Sampson and Representative Gale Mastrofrancesco and esteemed members of the Government Administration & Elections (GAE) Committee:

My name is Mary Consoli, I live and vote in Danbury CT, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. I am writing to ask you to adopt the proposed resolution for a required second time by simple majority in both chambers during this 2023 legislative session. Voters need to know right away if No-Excuse Absentee Voting will be on the statewide ballot in 2024.

While I was campaigning for Danbury City Council in 2019 I ran into several elderly voters who were very concerned about the November weather and if they were able to get out to vote because of snow. The right to vote should not be subject to any special reason. Voters should have a choice. There should be no-excuse-absentee voting. I urge you to support, No excuse Absentee Voting.

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I am also asking you to pass legislation for ballot curing which includes opening absentee ballots upon delivery by 6:00 pm on Election Day, notifying voters of defective ballots and allowing correction, prepaid postage for absentee ballots. However I do not feel absentee ballot applications that have been completed and signed to be public records subject to public inspection.

Thank you for your time and consideration and work to ensure Connecticut voting rights are expanded to allow all voters the ability to cast a ballot.

Sincerely,
Mary Consoli